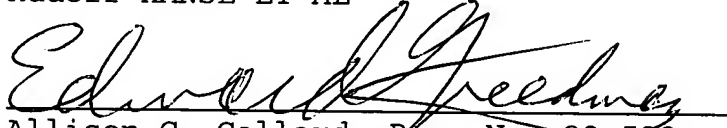


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been amended in order to remove the multiple dependency. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
Rudolf HANSL ET AL

By:

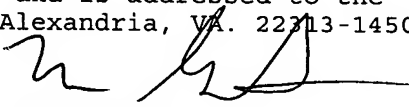

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Date of Deposit December 16, 2003

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Maria Guastella